Mr. I. Raman Menon —(a) and (b). The policy of the Government was to invest with judicial powers, a few Panchayats every year selected from those which, in their opinion, were best fitted for it. This continued till 1095. Due to the cost involved in the upkeep of these Panchayat Courts, the paucity of cases in some of these courts and the clamour of almost all the Panchayats to be given civil powers, Government found in 1096 that they could not continue the above policy and from that year forwards no Panchayats were newly invested with such powers. A scheme of clubbing together these Panchayats which are compactly situated and which could conveniently exercise judicial powers within the group, if invested, is now before the Government. The question will be decided after the separation of the Panchayats from Agriculture has been settled.

(c) Since 1100.
(d) No.
(e) Vide answer to (a) and (b) above.
(f) Yes.
(g) Vide answer to parts (a) and (b) above.

Thanikkudom Scheme.

132. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to state in what stage the Thanikkudom Project now is, and what work has been done with reference to it in the year 1103?

Mr. V. K Aravindaksha Menon—The survey work in connection with the investigation is over and the office work is in progress. The detailed survey work was completed in 1103.

Mental Hospital.

133. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether there was any damage to the new building of the Mental Hospital after the Assistant Engineer and his subordinates were punished for certain damages to the same building; if so, what was the extent of the damage and the action taken by Government for same?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There was no damage worth mentioning to the new male ward No. III to which the question relates except that it was found necessary to introduce tie rods for the roof.

The expenditure on account of this was Rs. 116—14—7.

Medical Scholarship for a Muslim student.

134. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they received last year as well as this year pplications from a bonafide Muslim student of the M. B. B. S.

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Class in the Madras Medical College, for a State Scholarship;

(b) how were the said applications disposed of?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) Mr P. M. Ali Kunhi, student, 3rd year M. B. B. S. class, Medical College, Madras, applied for a State Scholarship.

(b) The petitioner was informed that no scholarship was available.

Young Mens' Muslim Association.

135. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Is the Government in receipt of the resolutions passed at a Special Meeting of the Young Men's Muslim Association, Irinjalakkuda, held on the 24 th of Chingam 1104?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes.

Grant to the Hidayathul Islam Sabha School.

136. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

are not the Government in possession of representations of Hidayathul Islam Sabha, Trichur, about the utter inadequacy of the grant sanctioned for their school?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—No representation of the kind has reached the Government.

Pay of subordinate education staff and its revision.

137. Mr P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) when was the last revision of the pay of teachers effected; when the previous one;

(b) have not the grievances of the teachers been taken to the Director and the Government by the duly constituted Teachers' Association when the Special Finance Committee was engaged in considering the grievances of the subordinates of the various Departments;

(c) what has the Director of Public Instruction, who was a member of the Committee, done by way of remedying the grievances of the teachers.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—

(a) Last revision 1—1—1098.
Previous one 1—1—1095.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Director has made proper representations before the Committee with due regard to the finances of the State as a whole. (Vide also the Report of the Committee.)

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—With reference to the answer to sub-division (a), may I know what necessitated the last revision within three years of the previous one?

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